17 November 1953

MEMORANDUM FOR: Colonel White

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1. At your request I called the Personnel Office to find out whether had already departed for her overseas trip with her husband. I was informed that had left on 11 October 1953. I also learned that the Personnel Office had approved LWOP for one year for

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2. The LWOP request was submitted by the FE Division and cleared through the FP Career Service Board (since carries a PP Career Designation). Prior to coming to the Personnel Office, the LWOP request had cleared through the EE Division. Mr. Administrative Officer for the EE Division, wrote the following note to the Personnel Office:

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"Mr. Kirkpatrick, in his capacity of Chairman, CTA Career Service, or Inspector General, or both, has indicated that this, and similar, actions should be processed as LWOP and not as a resignation. In an LWOP status, subject would be in a position in new field location to immediately accept contract or WAE employment without Security clearance or other delay."

3. The LWOP was also routed through the Office of the COA/LL which wrote the following stipulation:

"Approved with the understanding that there is no commitment for actual employment upon return. Existence at that time of an appropriate vacancy will be determining factor."

The Personnel Office approved the LWOP request, presumably accepting the stipulation made by the COA/DDP. An employee who is in leave status (LWOP included) is no less an employee for this reason. In other words, there is no diminishment of job rights. If upon the return of a person who has been on LWOP there is no vacancy to which such individual can be immediately assigned, several courses of action may be taken: Return of the employee to active duty may be delayed for a reasonable time until attrition creates a suitable vacancy. On the other hand it may be necessary to invoke regular reduction in force procedures in order to determine which employee has least retention rights for employment. Actually this may require the separation of a person who is on regular duty status, in order to create a vacancy to which the returning LWOP individual might be assigned.

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4. There is no indication that Personnel is setting CIA Offices straight on the implications of LWOP. Since the file reflects nothing to the contrary, it even appears that Personnel might be accepting the stipulation established in this case by COA/DDP, despite the fact that this is incorrect. Recommend you discuss with Personnel since they may need to be corrected on these cases.

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SA/DD/A: DCK:dh (17 Nov 1953)

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